

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 19029 261748Z

53

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01

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R 261609Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5698

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 19029

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET JEWISH CRITICISM OF VOA

USIA FOR IEE AND IBS

REF: A. MOSCOW 18931

B. MOSCOW 18930

C. STATE 280637

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF DECEMBER 25 SOVIET JEWISH ACTIVIST, WHO IS MEMBER OF GROUP WHICH COMPLAINED TO WREN (REFTELS A AND B), GAVE FURTHER VIEWS ON VOA COVERAGE OF TRADE BILL AND JEWISH EMIGRATION ISSUES. SOURCE SAID THAT ACTIVIST GROUP FEELS VOA COVERAGE SHOULD HAVE BEEN, AND SHOULD BE, MORE LENGTHY AND DETAILED IN VIEW OF GREAT IMPORTANCE OF THESE ISSUES IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS. VOA SHOULD REALIZE THAT "EVERYBODY," NOT JUST SOVIET JEWS, IS LISTENING TO IST BROADCASTS TO LEARN OF DETAILS AND IMPLICATIONS OF TRADE BILL. JEWISH GROUP UNDERSTANDS THAT VOA DOES NOT COMMENT DIRECTLY ON SUCH MATTERS, BUT FEELS CLEARER PICTURE OF KISSINGER-JACKSON EXCHANGE, LEGISLATIVE PROCESS (INCLUDING TESTIMONY ON BILL), PROVISIONS OF BILL VIS-A-VIS U.S.-SOVIET TRADE, AND PARTICULARLY CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS, COULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 19029 261748Z

ACCORDING TO SOURCE, DESPITE MANY HOURS OF LISTENING TO VOA,

HE AND MOST OF HIS FRIENDS ARE STILL UNSURE OF WHAT TRADE BILL MEANS IN TERMS OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS AND JEWISH EMIGRATION. THEY FEEL MATTER OF FUTURE CREDITS TO SOVIET UNION HAS NOT BEEN MADE CLEAR, AND THEY WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO EX-IM BANK'S ROLE IN OVERALL PICTURE.

2. SOURCE ALSO CLAIMED THAT U.S. PRESS REACTION TO SOVIET STATEMENTS ON TRADE AND EMIGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN COVERED VERY FULLY ON VOA, AND THAT WREN'S OWN NY TIMES ARTICLE ON SOVIET POSITIONS (PRESUMABLY AS SUPPLIED TO LOCAL ACTIVISTS BY WREN) HAD NOT BEEN SUMMARIZED BY VOA. ALTHOUGH EMBOFF GAVE COUNTER-ARGUMENTS, SOURCE (AND PRSUMABLY MOST OF MOSCOW JEWISH ACTIVIST GROUP) REMAINED CONVINCED THAT VOA IS MUTING ITS COVERAGE OF TRADE BILL/EMIGRATION ISSUE. SOURCE ALSO HAD GOOD THINGS TO SAY ABOUT VOA, BUT GENERAL THRUST OF HIS REMARKS WAS CRITICAL.

3. COMMENT: SOVIET JEWISH ACTIVISTS ARE LISTENING CAREFULLY TO VOA WITH GENERAL DISPOSITION TO FIND FAULT WITH COVERAGE OF EVENTS AFFECTING THEM AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO FEED THEIR CRITICISM TO MOSCOW-BASED WESTERN PRESS. IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CAN ONLY TRY TO GIVE AS EXTENSIVE AND OBJECTIVE COVERAGE AS POSSIBLE TO TRADE BILL AND EMIGRATION ISSUES.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JEWS, REFUGEES, TRADE AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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